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Humanizing politics.....same as problem of ~~we~~ humanizing any organization or activity.

How would you humanize an organization such as club, factory, office, school?

1. make it an explicit value that that is the goal and orientation.
2. make that the criterion by which programs and policies are evaluated.
3. Pay attention to building into the rules those kinds of directives which are most likely to achieve humanization.
4. AN ASSUMPTION: people who are truly centered (self-approving, self-accepting, self-actualized) will be motivated to want the same thing for their fellow-beings. They will place broad human values above money, power, fame, convenience, etc. THE BASIC MASLOW ASSUMPTION.

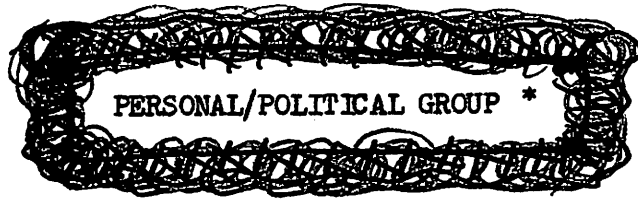
5. How to do this?
 - a. small groups
 - b. premium on open communication
etc etc the things in Cyndy's pamphlet

6. The problem of URGENCY: many people have come to recognize the urgency of ecological problems. Do we have urgent recognition of the crisis of moral pollution? Our lives, our society is full of moral pollution. In the political sphere it has come to be taken so much for granted that we hardly notice any more; and statements calling attention to this fact are viewed as childishly innocent and hopelessly impractical.

When we realize that it is simply a life and death matter that we learn how to make it work, then we'll understand that no amount of energy is too much to give.

7. THE ASSUMPTION OF PRACTICAL POLITICAL KNOWHOW: If we relate to each other openly, we will maximize each other's goodwill AND intelligence..... and thus find our way towards the best collective, political intelligence.

Suggested principles for a.....



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*motivated by Gestalt, family-
system, group process and political theories,
45.

We are encouraging a group which is flexibly structured (modelled after Gestalt and family-system theories) and which has three basic goals:

- 1) provide an arena for individuals to be real, alive and aware
- 2) provide a place for meaningful and enjoyable contact with others
- 3) carry out the group's political tasks.

The Structure: We encourage

- 1) collective or rotating leadership
- 2) democratic decision making process
- 3) small membership/to avoid anonymity & impotence (face to face group)
- 4) flexible rules and guidelines
- 5) awareness of group process constantly: a goal in itself

Individual Growth: We encourage

- 1) aliveness: physical, emotional, spiritual
- 2) awareness, which leads to choices & alternatives.

- 3) self responsibility
- 4) more real and less gamey people
- 5) freedom to express a range of feelings from anger to vulnerability
- 6) the ability to experience/without blocking fully
- 7) the knowing of each person's separateness and uniqueness and sameness

Contact: We encourage

- 1) giving each other feedback
- 2) learning how to listen, to take in what fits, to get rid of what doesn't
- 3) getting clear if messages communicated aren't understood
- 4) making room for differences
- 5) making eye-contact
- 6) awareness of each others games-- especially guilt-tripping, the great Achilles heel of many reformist movements. We encourage emphasis on positive motivation rather than motivation through guilt/

